

**METHOD, APPARATUS AND PROGRAM STORAGE DEVICE FOR  
PROVIDING PROTRUSION FEEDBACK FOR A READ/WRITE ELEMENT**

**ABSTRACT**

5       A method, apparatus and program storage device for providing protrusion  
feedback for a read/write element is disclosed. A slider with a heating element is  
provided to control the level of read/write element protrusion. A level of heating applied  
to the slider to change the head protrusion is measured and recorded until acceptable  
operation of the read/write element is obtained. These measurements are then used to  
10      ensure that the read/write element continues to operate properly at different drive  
temperatures.